## Message Text

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**UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 965** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, UY, US

SUBJECT: EL PAIS EDITORIAL ON KISSINGER'S HOUSTON SPEECH.

1. THE MARCH 21 EL PAIS EDITORIAL ENTITLED "ABOUT HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS" QUOTES THE PASSAGES OF KISSINGERS'S HOUSTON SPEECH THAT DEAL WITH THE NEED FOR A "NEW EQUILIBRIUM" BETWEEN THE US AND LATIN AMERICA AND SAYS: "HIS WORDS COULD NOT BE MORE EXACT OR HIS CONCEPTS MORE JUST AND LOGICAL". EL PAIS ADDS "A THOUSAND AND ONE TIMES WE HAVE REPEATED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT OBLIGATED TO ACT LIKE A RICH UNCLE, ALWAYS READY TO OPEN HIS WALLET TO BAIL OUT HIS POOR RELATIVES. NEITHER IS IT FITTING THAT THE LATTER EXPECT THE U.S. TO ACT IN THIS MANNER. NEITHER SHOULD THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES BELIEVE THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE OBLIGATIONS TO FULFILL OR DUTIES TO RENDER. IT IS EQUALLY CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES MUST NOT TURN A DEAF EAR TO WHATEVER COMPLAINT IS PRESENTED BY THOSE WHO SEE THEIR VITAL INTERESTS AFFECTED OR THEIR DEVELOPMENT HINDERED."

2. EL PAIS SAYS THAT EQUILIBRIUM IS THE WATCHWORD AND THAT THE SEARCH FOR IT IMPLIES ABSOLUTE UNDERSTANDING OF THE RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF ALL. "BUT IT WOULD BE ABSURD TO PRETEND THAT THIS EQUILIBRIUM HAS TO BE MATHEMATICALLY EXACT WHEN ON ONE SIDE ARE NATIONS THAT ARE STRUGGLING TO OVERCOME THE MOST ELEMENTAL PROBLEMS THAT POOR COUNTRIES SUFFER FROM AND ON THE OTHER SIDE IS THE RICHEST AND MOST POWERFUL NATION IN THE WORLD; THEREFORE THE EQUILIBRIUM HAS TO FUNCTION ACCORDING TO THE POSSIBILITIES OF EACH PART RATHER THAN IN ABSOLUTE RECIPROCITY. THIS MEANS THAT THE UNITED UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES MUST GIVE MORE THAN IT GETS. NOTWITHSTANDING THIS, THE LATIN

AMERICAN NATIONS WILL HAVE TO ADOPT REALISTIC AND ADULT CRITERIA (ELIMINATING THEIR TENDENCY TO DEMAND THE BENEFITS OF A CONTINENTAL PATERNALISM), UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS ROLE AS A SUPERPOWER OBLIGES THE UNITED STATES TO ASSUME OBLIGATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AND TO CARRY THEM OUT IN A MANNER THAT MIGHT BE CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS

OF ITS HEMISPHERIC COMPANIONS OR TO WHAT THEY EXPECT."

3. EL PAIS NOTES THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT BOTH TO REACH

## AND TO MAINTAIN

SUCH AN EQUILIBRIUM, PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE DIVERSITY WITHIN LATIN AMERICA. "IN THIS SENSE, THE PRINCIPLE OF SOLIDARITY WILL HAVE TO BE USED WITH GREAT CAUTION BECAUSE IF THIS PRINCIPLE IS USED AUTOMATICALLY IT WOULD CEASE TO BE MEANINGFUL." EL PAIS DISCUSSES THE DIFFERENCES AMONG THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND CONCLUDES: "IT IS THE UNITED STATES THAT MUST MAKE THE GREATER EFFORT IN ORDER THAT THE EQUILIBRIUM WITH LATIN AMERICAN BE ADEQUATE. AND THE LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS MUST ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL FOLLOW DIFFERENT POLICIES TOWARDS SOME OF THEM BECAUSE NOT ONLY WILL THIS GUARANTEE GREATER ATTENTION TO THOSE THAT NEED IT MOST BUT ALSO BECAUSE THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ELIMINATING THEIR SERIOUS INFERIORITY COMPLEX AND WILL IMPROVE ALL HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS AT ONCE."

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Subject: EL PAIS EDITORIAL ON KISSINGER'S HOUSTON SPEECH.

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